

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 02958 270308Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-03 AID-05 /046 W
-----043736 271222Z /13

R 261718Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4760
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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LONDON FOR KINSOLVING

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV, EG
SUBJ: FORD INVESTMENT PROJECT

1. ACTING MANAGER OF FORD EGYPT, MOHAMED ABOUL ELA, TOLD US TODAY THAT FORD MIDDLE EAST PRESIDENT WILLIAMS PLANS VISIT CAIRO BEGINNING JANUARY 28 FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF FORD PROJECT. WILLIAMS WILL BE SEEING, INTER ALIA, DEPRIMIN KAISOUNI, INVESTMENT AUTHORITY DEPUTY CHAIRMAN EL NAZER, AND CHAIRMAN OF ARAB INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION (AIO) ASHRAF MARWAN.

2. ACCORDING ABOUL ELA, EL NAZER SUGGESTED DURING RECENT MEETING WITH FORD REPS IN DETROIT THAT AIO BE INVITED TO ASSUME THE 30 PERCENT OF PROJECT EQUITY WHICH REMAINS AFTER GOE AND FORD SHARES SUBSCRIBED. EL NAZER REPORTEDLY INDICATED THAT PARTICIPATION BY AIO WOULD BE USEFUL IN HELPING RESOLVE BOYCOTT PROBLEM. POSSIBLE AIO ROLE WILL BE AMONG MATTERS WILLIAMS WILL DISCUSS WHILE IN CAIRO.

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3. ABOUL ELA SAID KAISOUNI HAD TOLD HIM THAT FORMAL LIFTING OF BOYCOTT SANCTION IN EGYPT WOULD BE DIFFICULT UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT ALLOWING VENTURE TO GO FORWARD, WITH FORD PARTICIPATION, POSES NO PROBLEM. ACCORDING ABOUL ELA, NEW PLANT AND ITS PRODUCTS WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BEAR FORD NAME. (THIS DOES NOT ACCORD WITH EMBASSY'S PREVIOUS UNDERSTANDING.) HE SAID GOE

WANTS TO USE "NEUTRAL" NAME FOR PROJECT BECAUSE OF BOYCOTT
SENSITIVITIES AND COMPANY IS WILLING ACCEPT ARRANGEMENT
BECAUSE OF ITS MINORITY EQUITY SHARE IN VENTURE.

4. WILLIAMS PLANS CALL ON AMBASSADOR DURING VISIT AND WE
WILL REPORT RESULT OF DISCUSSIONS. EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 26 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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